



sacramento river
conservation area
forum
a voice for all interests

SRCAF NOTES ~ JANUARY, 2004

The Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum Board Members:

Don Anderson ~ Chair, Glenn County
Lynnel Pollock ~ Vice Chair, Yolo County
Brendon Flynn ~ Sec./Treas., Tehama County

Bill Borrer, Tehama County

Denny Bungarz, Glenn County

Ben Carter, Colusa County

Mel Dodgin, The Resources Agency

Jane Dolan, Butte County

Marc Faye, Yolo County

Dan Gover, Shasta County

Glenn Hawes, Shasta County

Shirley Lewis, Butte County

Dan Silva, Sutter County

David Womble, Colusa County

Russell Young, Sutter County

Ex-Officio Members:

Frank Michny, Bureau of Reclamation

Darrin Thome, U.S. F&WS

Mark Charlton, Corps of Engineers

Diana Jacobs, Department of Fish & Game

Pete Rabbon, The Reclamation Board

Dwight Russell, Department of Water Resources

Burt Bundy, Manager
(530) 528-7411
bundy@water.ca.gov



Future SRCAF Board and Committee Meetings ~

TAC Meeting - January 6th, 9:30 am,
Willows City Hall

LAC meeting - January 14th, 2:00 pm,
Colusa County Farm Bureau Office

SRCAF Board meeting - January 15th
3:00 p.m., Monday Afternoon Club,
Willows

WOODSON BRIDGE -

A comment by Burt Bundy, SRCAF Manager

Through the efforts of Tehama County and the SRCAF, the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) began a Section 1135 Ecosystem Restoration feasibility level study of the area near Woodson Bridge/Kopta Slough. The scope of the project builds on the earlier studies done by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) that identified a preferred alternative to place environmentally accepted bank protection above and below the west abutment of Woodson Bridge and to remove a portion of the rock revetment along state property about 2 miles upstream. This river restoration option was selected as the best alternative to achieve long-term channel management at the Woodson Bridge State Recreation Area. The restoration of about 300 acres of state owned property would also be a key component of the project.

The study includes geomorphic and erosion protection analysis, two-dimensional hydraulic modeling, flood plain planning and restoration, and riparian protection and re-vegetation. The soil tests will include excavations in the flood plain and core sampling along the River corridor. The hydraulic and hydrologic modeling will provide a look at water levels and flow velocities and direction with different project configurations. A key product of this information will be projected future river movement and flood water location. The environmental review will address project impacts, both adverse and beneficial, to fish, wildlife, and the local community. The time frame for completion of the study is approximately 18 months.

On November 12th, the SRCAF and Tehama County coordinated a public workshop at the Corning City Council Chambers to update interested stakeholders on the progress of the study. Burt Bundy, SRCAF Manager, and Ernie Ohlin, Tehama County Flood Control, presented a background of the area and the issues involved. Stan Wallin, COE Project Manager, outlined the Sec. 1135 Continuing Authority Program (Modification of a COE Project for the Environment), and gave a preview of the project. Mike Welsh, COE Environmental Planner, and Tom Smith, a Geotechnical Engineer with Ayres Associates and project consultant, outlined the studies that are being conducted. Tom discussed the hydrology of the area and provided slides of some of the 2-D modeling that was being done. He talked about the various scenarios to allow the river to move, and listed the types of protection to be considered at the bridge. Mike discussed the environmental assessments that were being done and showed the area to be restored.

A Workgroup meeting will be held some time in January to further update the study.



AT THE TAC ~ At the November 4th meeting Gary Lemon, Department of Water Resources (DWR), gave an update on the Hamilton City Project, a multi-purpose project to reduce flood damage and restore the ecosystem along the Sacramento River. Jim Ham, DWR, discussed the proposal/project tracking process being developed to help both those that are proponents of projects and those that want to know what activities are occurring, or being proposed, along the River. The electronic fact sheet will be available as a database on the SRCAF website. Chuck Nelson, California State University, Chico updated the group on the new public use and recreation website now on line at www.sacramentoriver.org. The website includes public access site information, an inventory of public properties, a Sacramento River atlas, gallery, and educational articles. Adam Henderson, DWR, discussed a project to map habitat on the River channel being done in conjunction with an interagency group for a consistent data collection methodology to inventory basic infrastructure along the River.

AT THE BOARD ~ The December 4th SRCAF Board of Directors meeting opened with a public comment period on the strategic planning process, a plan that will guide the activities of the SRCAF. Public input is extremely important to the development of the Plan and the stakeholders were encouraged to provide written comment on the Plan through December. Greg Werner, TNC, presented an update on the Comprehensive Plan for the Sacramento River Wildlife Area, managed by the California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG). The plan includes technical review and analysis of each of the sites, and involved an extensive public outreach program that included stakeholder interviews, public input meetings, and presentations to local agencies and organizations. The report is available on the CDFG website: www.dfg.ca.gov. Donna Garcia from the Bureau of Reclamation discussed the Feasibility Study currently underway to develop an implementable plan to enlarge Shasta Dam and Reservoir. The SRCAF Board also reviewed four projects that had been presented to the TAC: Grevie's Afton Ranch, Tisdale Boat Launching Facility, Shahi Property, and the La Barranca Unit of the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge.

Public comments on the draft 3-year strategic plan and the draft annual plan via email, or written, are encouraged through the month of December prior to a final recommendation to the Board in January.

5TH ANNUAL SNOW GOOSE FESTIVAL ~ JANUARY 23-25, 2004 ~ CHICO MASONIC FAMILY CENTER, CHICO INCLUDES:



Friday night reception at the Sierra Nevada Brewery

Saturday banquet and keynote speaker at the Chico Masonic Center

*Field trips, workshops, tours, children's activities, river walks

For a schedule of events & registration visit the Sacramento River Preservation Trust website

@ www.sacrivetrust.org or call (530) 345-1865

THE BIDWELL-SACRAMENTO RIVER STATE PARK Preliminary General Plan /Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is now available for public review. The 45-day public comment period for the Draft EIR begins on December 12, 2003 and ends on January 26, 2004. Copies are available for review at the California Department of Parks and Recreation office in Sacramento, the Northern Buttes District office in Oroville, the

Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park in Chico, and the Chico Branch of the Butte County Library. Electronic copies are posted on the website: www.parks.ca.gov. Submit comments in writing to: California Department of Parks and Recreation, Northern Service Center, One Capital Mall, Suite 500, Sacramento, Ca. 95814, Contact: Wayne Woodroof





